F. & A. M. MASTER'S LODGE, No. 244.—Stated communion tion upon third monday night of each month Hall in Masonic Temple.

DAVID NEWMAN, W. M. E. E. McCroskey, Sec.

1 2RARL CHAPTER, No. 44 R. a. M.—Stated convocation upon first Mouday night of each much at Hall in Masonic Temple. A. Greild, Recorder. W. A. Galbraith, H. F. CRUE DE LION COMMANDERY, No. 9,-Stated conclave upon second Monday night of each month; meetings for drill upon Friday night of each week, at Hall in Masonic Temple. S. J. Todd, Rec. E. Bolli, E.C.

LO. O. F.

PLAST TENNESSKE LODGE, No. 34.—Meets P. Tuesday nights at Odd Fellows Hall, west e Market Square. J. T. Ambrose, N.G.; John Benziger v. G.; E. W. Adkins, R. 8., and m't 3ec; Peter Ritter, Treasurer.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1882.

From The Republican of December 5th. A VALEDICTORY SALUTATORY.

A parting that ends with a meeting,

A meeting that ends with a wedding A wedding that ends with a greeting. A greeting that ends with ink-shed-

This will be the last issue of THE REPUBLICAN. --We write these words with some

THE REPUBLICAN was founded under circumstances well known. order. What of good it has accomplished we look on with pride; what of evil it has done we contemplate with

The career of no man is one of unmixed good. The best of men commit errors by the multitude. not one." The very sun, that emblem of brightness, hath its spots.

We, therefore, are not so presumptious as to imagine that THE REPUBLICAN has committed no errors. Looking backward over its pathway, we see many things we would have otherwise. We have said things we ought not to have ought to have said.

ever endeavored to prefer princi- satisfactory evidence that he has ples to parties and parties to persons. In the discussion of principles we have striven to use the noblest weapons and to convince and win rather than insult and destroy. In the discussion of parties we have clung to Republican- be received." ism as Ruth to Naomi, saying ever, for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: where

have hit and been hit; we have for money paid. struck with feeble arm and yet with allour power; we have been battered by heavy artillery but have yet not been destroyed. We have faced every foeman and measured swords with every assailant; not without fear, but without cocasional defeats, but yet, without occasional defeats, but yet, without occasional defeats, but yet, we hope, without ever being dis-

fought us for less worthy reasons vate our politics.

we have the charity of silence, and ask the same in return, not doubting that there is blame at our own door, also.

to the end, we have a heart full of the sweetest gratitude and a hand with a pressure as soft a woman's

If there be any who have fallen out with us by the way, we urgo them to try us once more, in our new pathway; and they may find we have learned to profit by experience, and have grown wiser and better as we have grown older.

Hereafter, THE REPUBLICAN and the WHIG & CHRONICLE will be consolidated and published as one paper, under the name of the RE-PUBLICAN CHRONICLE.

The two papers have ceased] to fight each other and have been united in political wedlock, We invite the friends of both to the

No cards were issued, as the high contracting parties desired the ceremony to be as private as possible. But wedding presents from the friends of both parties, in the shape of subscriptions and advertisements, will be entirely in order, and, we hope, entirely fashionable.

THE REPUBLICAN takes the surname of the CHRONICLE, and may, therefore, be considered the bride; but nevertheless she did the courting, and, in consideration of the dower, the groom, blushingly, accepted.

The "happy pair" will be found at the groom's office, where they hope to receive their friends, their congratulations and the presents afore-HENRY R. GIBSON, Editor.

MORE DEMOCRATIC BLUNDERING PROPOSED.

A number of Tennessee Demoratic journal are advocating a reapportionment of the State by the new the last Legislature gerrymandered porter, (Dem.)

print.

The last Legislature was Democratic, and the charge that it redistricted "East Tennessee in the interest of the Republicans" is a direct assault upon the wisdom, mum annual demand for that object has integrity and good faith of the yet been reached. Uncertainty upon this direct assault upon the wisdom, Democratic majority.

Nobody ever heard of a second redistricting within ten years, and the Constitution of the State makes no provision for such action.

A few Democrats, made drunk by the wine of victory, are ready to engage in any sort of political excess that promises to give them one office

seat, and to keep Louisiana Kellogg out of Congress.

If it were not for such fanatical revolutionists and such incendiary anarchists, the Democratic Party would have had a President before

The Democrats ought to establish a political Lunatic Asylum, and should hasten to confine in it all of these fanatics and hot heads; for, as long as they are allowed to run at large, so long will the Republicans use them as mere raw-heads-andbloody-bones to terrify the timid into voting for the party of law and

POLL-TAX QUALIFICATIONS.

Over 100,000 white men were not able to vote at the late election in Virginia because they had not paid their poll tax. Politicians are now agitating in favor of repealing the "There is none that doeth good, no, tax, arguing that it is an incentive to A simplification of the complex, inconsist. bribery, by tempting rich candidates for office to pay the poll-tax of poor tain manufactures. Particularly those men. Governor Long and Gov. of cotton, iron and steel, and a substantial men. Governor Long and Governor-elect Butler, of Massachusetts, where the same system exists, have expressed their disapproval of it .-

It is not generally known, but is nevertheless true, that the Constitusaid, and have left unsaid things we tion of Tennessee provides that each voter shall give to the judges But with all our errors, we have of election, where he offers to vote, paid the poll-taxes assessed against him for such preceding period as the Legislature shall prescribe, and at such time as may be prescribed by law; without which his vote cannot

The Legislature of 1869, 70 passed "Entreat me not to leave thee, or an act enforcing said provision, but to return from following after thee: it was subsequently repealed. All such laws tend to increase political corruption, and to degrade the right of suffrage. thou diest, will I die, and there will It puts the rich above the poor, and makes the primal right of freemen a of the great harbors and cities for whose In the discussions of persons we thing to be evidenced by a receipt of providing an armament suited to our

So hostile were we to any such

purchasable privilege of voting.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

(Concluded from first page.) surplus was more than one hundred door, also.

To those noble men, and their names are many, who stood by us They have not only answered the require-

THE SINKING FUND.

But have afforded a large balance, applicable to other reductions of the public debt. But I renew the expression of my conviction, that such rapid extinguishment of the national indebtedness as is now taking place, is by no means a cause for congratulation; it is a cause rather for serious apprehension. If it continues, it must speedily be followed by one of the evil results so clearly set forth in the report of the Secre-Either the surplus must lie idle in the treasury or the government will be forced to buy, at market rates, its bonds not then redeemable, and which, under such circumstances, cannot fail to com mand an enormous premium, or the swollen revenues will be devoted to extravagant expenditure, which, as experience has taught, is ever the bane of an overflowing treasury. It was made apparent in the course of the animated discussions which this question aroused at the last minishing the revenue by reducing taxation wedding feast. No man need put any oil in his lamp for we have a because of conflicting views as to the best lamp that will shine for all—pro-vided our friends will supply the

et been reaped. In fulfillment of what I deem my constitutional duty, but with little hope that I can make valuable contribution to this vexed question, I shall proceed to intimate briefly my own views in relation to it. Upon the showing of

OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION At the close of the last fiscal year, I felt justified in recommending to Congress the abolition of all internal revenue taxes except those upon tobacco, in its various form, and upon distilled spirits and fermented liquors; and except, also, the special tax upon the manufacturers and dealers in such articles.

I venture now to suggest that unless it

shall be ascertained that the probable exof the government for the coming year have been underestimated, all nal taxes, save those which relate to

can be prudently abrogated. Such a course, if accompanied by a simplification of the machinery of collection, which would then be easy of accompliahment, might reasonably be expected to result in diminishing the cost of such collection by at least two millions and a half of dollars, and in the return of the cost threment from office of from fifteen hundred to two thousand persons. The sys-

has never commended itself to the favor of the American people, and has never been resorted to, exept for supplying deficiencies Tennessee Legislature. This is exigency, the duties on imports have proved demanded because of the fact that inadequate for the needs of the government. The sentiment of the country doubtless dethe last Legislature gerrymandered the Senstorial and Flotorial districts of East Tennessee in the interest of the Republican party.—Bristol Re
It seems to me, however, that for various reasons, so sweeping a meas-ure as the total abolition of internal taxes The sillness of such babble would, for the present, be an unwise step. be incredible did we not see it in special mention: First it is by no means the sillness of such babble would, for the present, be an unwise step. for a great diversity of objects, widely be incredible did we not see it in special mention: First it is by no means the sillness of such babble would. Two of these reasons are deserving of special mention: First, it is by no means clear that even if the existing system of duties on imports is continued without cated unless it is irremediable. It inevitably government. It is estimated that one hundred millions of dollars will be required for pensions during the coming year, and it may well be doubted whether the maxiquestion would alone justify, in my judgment, the retention, for the present, of that portion of the system of internal revenue, which is least objectionable to the people. Second, a total abolition of excess taxes would almost inevitably prove a serious, if not an insurmountable obstacle to a thorough revision of the tariff and to any con- without imperiling the success of other iderable reduction in import duties.

makes unequal distributions, both of its ourdens and its benefits. This fact was practically recognized by a majority of each This is the same spirit of revolution that seeks to dewill, I trust, afford you such information as to the condition and prospects of the vari-ous commercial, agricultural, manufacturing, mining and other interests of the country, and contains such suggestions for statutory revision as will practically aid your action upon this important subject.

THE REVENUE FROM CUSTOMS For the fiscal year ending June, 30, 1879, amounted to \$137,000,000. It has in the three succeeding years reached—first, \$186,000,000; then \$198,000,000, and finally, as has been already stated, \$220,000,000. The income from this source for the fiscal year, which will end on June 30, 1883, will ess be considerably in excess of the

If the tax on domestic spirits is to be retained, it is plain, therefore, that large refuctions from the customs revenues are entirely feasible. While recommending this reduction, I am far from advising the abandonment of the policy of so discriminating in the adjustment of duties as to

PROTECTION TO DOMESTIC LABOR, But the present system should be so revised as to equalize the public burden among all classes and occupations, and bring it into closer harmony with the pres-ent needs of industry. Without entering into minute detail, which, under the present circumstances, is quite unnecessary, l

THE PREE LIST. So as to include within it the numerous ar reduction of the duties upon those articles and upon sugar, molasses, silk, wool and woolen goods. If a general revision of the tariff shall be found to be impracticable at this session, I express the hope that at least some of the more conspicuous inequalities of the present law may be corrected before your final adjournment. One of them is specially referred to by the Secretary. In view of a recent

DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT The necessity of amending the law by which the Duch standard of color is adopted as the test of the saccharine strength of sugars is too obvious to require comment From the report of the

THE SECRETARY OF WAR appears that the only outbreaks of Indians during the past year occurred in Arizona and in the southwestern part of New Mexico. They were promptly quelled, and the quiet which has prevailed in all other parts of the country has permitted such addition to be made to the military force in the region endangered by the Apaches; that there is little reason to apprehend trouble in the future. Those parts of the Secretary's report which relate to our sea coast defences, and their arma-ment suggest the gravest reflections. Our

present necessities, has been the subject of

graced.

We wish them success; and we representative of principles we have the highest respect; for those who fought us for less worthy reasons to every movement that will purify the ballot-box, and element that with success to every movement that will purify the ballot-box, and element that will purify the ballot-box. ARMING AND EQUIPPING THE MILITIA

growing out of the recent act of Congress making War calls attention to an embarrassment, THE RETIREMENT OF OFFICERS OF THE

compulsory at the age of 64. The act of 1878 is still in force, which limits to four hundred, the number of those who can be retired for disability or upon their own ap-plication. The two acts, when construed together, seem to forbid the re-lieving, even for absolute incapacity of officers who do not fall within the purview of the later statute, save at such times as there chance to be less than four hundred names on the retired list. There are nov four hundred and twenty. It is not likely that Congress intended this result, and I concur with the Secretary that the law

ought to be amended.

The grounds that impelled me to with hold my signature from the bill entitled "An act making appropriations for the construction, repair and preservation of certain works on

BIVERS AND HARBORS,"

Which became a law near the close of your last session, prompt me to express the hope that no similar measure will be deemsession of Congress that the policy of di- now be open to a serious objection in addition to that which was lately urged upon your attention. I am informed by the Secretary of War that the greater portion of the sum appropriated for the various items specified in that act remains unexpend-Of the new works which it authorized, expenses have been incurred upon two, only for which the total appropriation was \$210,000. The present available balance is disclosed by the following

AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION. by act of August 2, 1882, \$18,738,875. Amount of appropriation by act of June 19, 1882, \$10,000. Amount of appropriation for payments to J. B. Eads, \$304,000. Unexpended balance of former appropriations, \$4,738,263. Total, \$23,791,138. Less amount drawn from the Treasury between July 1, 1882, and November 39, 1882,

\$6,056,194. Total, \$17,734,844. It is apparent by this exhibit that so far concerns most of the items to which the act of August 2, 1882, relates, there can be no need of further appropriations until after the close of the present session. If, how-ever, any action should seem to be necessary in respect to particular objects, it will be entirely feasible to provide for those objects by appropriate legislation.

It is possible, for example, that a delay

intil the assembling of the next Congress to make additional provision for

THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER IMPROVEMENTS might be attended with serious conse quences. If such should appear to be the case, a just bill relating to that subject would command my approval.

This teach
me to offer a suggestion which I trust will
command itself to the wisdom of Congress. is it not advisable that grants of conble sums of money for diverse and inde pendent schemes of internal improvement should be made the subjects of separate and distinct legislative enactments. scarcely be gainsaid, even by those who favor the most liberal expenditures, for such purposes are sought to be accomplished by what is commonly called the river and harbor bill. That the practice of grouping in

though the adoption of the course I have recon mended, every member of Congress, when ever opportunity should arise for giving his influence and vote for meritorious appropriations, would be enabled so to do, out being called upon to sanction others, undeserving of his approval; so, also, would the executive be afforded thereby ful opportunity to exercise his constitutions prations seemed to him object which commend themselves to his judgment It may be urged in opposition to these sugternal improvement which are justly en titled to govermental aid is so great as to render impracticable

SEPARATE APPROPRIATION BILLS Therefore, or even for such comparatively limited number as make disposition large sums of money. This objection m be well founded; and, whether it be or no the advantage which would be likely to en-sue from the adoption of the course I have recommended may, perhaps, be more ef-fectually attained by another, which I respectfully submit to Congress as an alterna tive proposition.
It is provided by the constitutions

fourteen of our States that the executive may disapprove any item or items, or items of a bill appropriating money, whereupo the part of the bill approved shall be law and the part disapproved shall fail to be-come a law, unless repassed according to the provisions prescribed for the passage of bills over the veto of the executive. The States wherein some such provision as the foregoing is a part of the fundamental law, are: Alabama, (alifornia, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri Nebraska, New Jersey, Ne v York, Pennsylvania, Texas, and West Virginia.

I commend to your careful consideration the question whether an

AMENDMENT OF THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION In the particular indicated, would not afford the best remedy for what is often a grave embarrassment, both to members of Con gress, and to the Executive, and is some imes a serious public mischief. The report of the Secretary of

THE NAVY States the movements of the various squad rons during the year, in home and foreign such ships as we possess, have continued to illustrate the high character and excellent discipline of the paval organization. On the 21st of December, 1881, informa tion was received that the exploring steame Jeannette had been crushed and abandone in the Artic Ocean, the officers and crew, after a journey over the ice, embarked three boats for the coast of Siberia. of the parties, under command of Chief Engineer Geo. W. Melville, reached the

land, and falling in with the natives, was

nded in a barren region near the mout

of the Lena River. After six weeks had

LIEUT, COMMANDER DE LONG

aved. Another under

elapsed all but two of the number had died from fatigue and starvation. No tidings have been received from the party in the third boat, under the command of Lieut. Chipp. But a long and fruitless investigation leaves little doubt that all its members perished at sea. As a slight tribute to their names of the gallant men who sacrified their lives on this expedition: Lieut. Commander Geo. W. DeLong, Surgeon James M. Ambler, Jerome J. Collins, Hans Halmer Erick-son, Heinrich H. Kacke, George W. Boyd, Walter Lee, Adolph Drissher Carl A. Gortz, Wilse Iwison, the cook; A. H. Sam and the fense ant DeLong and his comrades, in pursuance of the directions of Congress. The Rogers, fitted out for the relief of the Jeannette, in accordance with the act of Congress, March 30, 1881, sailed from San Francisco June 16th, under command of Lieut. Robt. M. Berry. On November 30th she was accidentally destroyed by fire, while in winter quarters, in St. Lawrence bay, but the officers and one of his officers, after making and one of his officers and or the missing boat were Lieut. Chas. Chipp, commanding; William Dunbar, Alfred Sweetman, Walter Sharvell, Albert C.
Kuhne, Edward Star, Henry D. Warren and Peter E Johnson. Lieut. Gilmer B.
Harber and Master Wm. H. Scheutze are while in winter quarters, in St. Lawrence bay, but the officers and crew succeeded in escaping to the shore. Lieutenant Berry and one of his officers, after making a search for the Jeannette along the coast of Siberia, fell in with Chief Engineer Melville's party and returned home by way of Europe. The other officers and the crew of the Rogers were brought from St. Lawrence Bay by the whaling steamer North Star. Master Chas. F. Putnam, who had been placed in charge of a department of supplies at the deficiency which must for a time result by increasing the charge for carrying merchandise, which is now only sixteen cents per pound; but even without such an increase, I am confident that the receipts under the diminished rates would equal the expenditures after the lapse of three or four years.

The report of the deficiency which must for a time result by increasing the charge for carrying merchandise, which is some extent, the deficiency which must for a time result by increasing the charge for carrying merchandise, which is some extent, the deficiency which must for a time result by increasing the charge for carrying merchandise, which is some extent, the deficiency which must for a time result by increasing the charge for carrying merchandise, which is some extent,

lost notwithstanding all efforts to rescue

The monitors by armored vessels, and the armament by high power rifled guns. The reconstruction of our navy, which was recommended in my last message, was begun by Congress authorizing, in its recent act, the construction of two large upar mored steel vessels, of the character recom mended by the late naval advisory board, and subject to the approval of a new ad visory board, to be organized as provided by that sot. I call your attention to the recommendation of the Secretary and the board, that authority be given to construct two more cruisers, of smaller dimension and one fleet dispatch vessel; and that ap-propriations be made for high power RIFLED CANNON

For the torpedo service and for other harbor defences, pending the con-sideration by Congress of the policy to be hereafter adopted in conducting the eight large navy yards and their expensive establishments, the Secre-tary advocates the reduction of expenditures, therefor, to the lowest possible amounts; for the purpose of affording the officers and seamen of the navy opportunities for exercise and discipline in their ing has occurred which has changed

LIGHT HOUSE SERVICE And coast survey be transferred as now organized from the Treasury to the Navy Department, and he also suggests for the reason which he assigns, that a similar transfer may wisely be made of the cruising revenue vessels. The Secretary forcibly depicts the intimate connection and inter deendence of the Bavy and commercial marine, and invites attention to the continued decadence of the latter, and the corresponding transfer of our growing commerce to foreign bottoms. This subject is one of the utmost importance to the national welfare. Methods of reviving

AMBRICAN SHIP BUILDING. And of restoring the United States flag in the ocean-carrying trade should receive the immediate attention of Congress. We have mechanical skill and abundant material for the manufacture of modern iron steam-ships in fair competition with our commer-cial rivals; our disadvantage in building ships is the greater cost of labor, and in sailing them higher taxes and greater interest on capital, while the ocean highways are already monopolized by our formidable competitors. These obstacles should in some way be overcome, and for our rapid communication with foreign lands we should not continue to depend wholly upon vessels built in the yards of other countries, and sailing under foreign flags. With no United States steamers on the principal ocean lines or in any foreign ports, our facilities for extending our commerce are greatly re-stricted, while the nations which build and sail ships and carry the mails and passengers obtain thereby conspicuous advantage in increasing their trade.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL Gives evidence of the satisfactory condition of that department and contains many val-uable data and accompanying suggestions which cannot fail to be of interest. The information which it affords, that the receipts for the fiscal year have exceeded the expenditures, must be very gratifying to Congress and to the people of the country.

As matters which may fairly adding early of which is necessarily restricted to the information which it affords, that the rein reference to the advisability of changing she present basis for fixing salaries and allowances, of extending the money order system and of enlarging the functions of the postal establishments, so as to put under its control the telegraph system of the country; though from this last and most important recommendation, I must withhold my concurrence. At the last session of Congress several bills were introduced into the House of Representatives for the reduction of letter postage to the rate of two cents per half ounce. I have given much study and re-flection to this subject, and am thoroughly

for the best interests of the public. It has been the policy of the government from its foundation to defray as far as possible the expenses of carrying the mails by a direct tax in the form of postage. It has never been claimed, that this service ought to be productive of a net revenue. As has been stated already, the report of the Postmaster-General shows that there is now a considhenceforth the receipts are likely to increase at a much greater ratio than the necessary expenditures. Unless some change is made in the existing laws, the profits of the postal service will in a very few years swell the revenues of the govern-ment many millions of dollars. The time seems auspicious, therefore, for

REDUCTION IN THE RATES OF POSTAGE

this subject during the last thirty years, discloses that domestic letters constitute the only class of mail matter which has never been favored by a substantial reduction of rates. I am convinced that the burden o naintaining the service falls most unequally ipon that class, and more than any other it is entitled to present relief, and that such relief may be extended without detriment to other public interests, will be discovered upon reviewing the results of former reduc-tions. Immediately prior to the act of 1845,

the postage up in a letter composed of a single sheet, was as follows: If conveyed 30 miles or less, 6 cents; be-tween 30 and 80 miles, 10 cents; between 80 and 150 miles, 12½ cents; between 150 and 400 miles, 25 cents. By the act of 1845 the postage upon a single letter, conveyed for any distance under 300 miles, was fixed at 5 cents, and for any greater distance, at 10 cents. By the act of 1851, it was pro-vided that a single letter, if prepaid, should be carried any distance not exceeding three thousand miles, for 3 cents, and any greater distance, for 6 cents. It will be noticed that both these reductions were of a radical character and relatively quite as important case there ensued a temporary loss of revenue, but a sudden and large influx of business, which substantially repaired that loss within three years, unless the experience of past legislation in this country and else-where goes for naught, it may be safely predicted that the stimulus of 33½ per cent. igned to the ma ls. The advantages of se crecy would lead to a very general substitution of sealed packages, for postal cards and open circulars and in divers other ways.

Would be enormously augmented. Such increase amounted in England, in the first year after the adoption of penny postage to more than 125 per cent., as a result of careful estimates, the details of which cannot be here set out. I have become convinced convinced that the deficiency for the first year after the proposed reduction would not exceed 7 per cent. of the expendi-tures, or \$300,000,000, while the deficiency

been placed in charge of a department of supplies at Cape Serdze, returning to his post from St. Lawrence Bay, across the ice in an obling snow storm, was carried out to sea and

stions of his predecessors, that in the than he ought to bear, and it necessarily dilost, notwithstanding all efforts to rescue him.

It appears by the Secretary's report that the available naval force of the United States consists of thirty-seven cruisers; fourteen single turreted monitors, built during the rebellion; a large number of smooth-bore guns and parrot rifles and eighty-seven rifled cannon. The cruising vessels should be gradually replaced by

IBON OR STEEL SHIPS,

The monitors by armored vessels, and the armament by high power rifled guns. The reconstruction of our party which was prosecuting, with the utmost vigor of the law, all persons who might be found charged with those offenses. A trial of partments, but to Senators and Represent-

one of those cases has since occurred. It occupied, for many weeks, the attention of the Supreme Court of this District, and by the bill now pending before the Senate was conducted with great zeal and ability. It resulted in a disagreement of the jury, but the cause has been again placed upon the calendar and will shortly be retired. If any guilty persons shall finally escape pun-ishment for their offenses, it will not be for lack of diligent and earnest efforts on the part of the prosecution. I trust that some agreement may be reached which will speedily enable Congress, with the concurrence of the Executive, to afford the commercial community the benefits of a national bankrupt law.

THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, with its accompanying document, presents

nities for exercise and discipline in their profession, under appropriate control and direction. The Secretary advises that the is devoted much space in a former communication to Congress. I renew the recommendation therein contained as to extending to the Indian the protection of the law allotting land individually to such as desire it and making suitable provision for the education of youth. Such provision as the Secretary forcibly maintains will prove unavailing unless it is broad enough to in-clude all those who are able and willing to make use of it, and should not solely relate to intellectual training, but also to instruc-tion in such manual labor and simple industrial arts as can be made practically

Among other important subjects which are included within the Secretary's report. and which will doubtless furnish occasion for Congressional action may be mentioned the neglect of the railroad companies to which large grants of land were made by the act of 1862 and 1864 to take thereto and their equitable exemption exemption local taxation. No survey of of our material condition can fail to suggest inquiries as to the moral and intellectual progress

AN ALABMING STATE OF ILLITERACY in certain portions of the country, where the provision for schools is inadequate. It is a momentous question for the decision of Congress whether immediate and substantial aid should not be extended by the general government for supplementing the efforts of private beneficence, and of State and territorial legislation in behalf of education.

The regulation of inter-State commerce has already been the subject of your delib-States, or between any one of the States off foreign country, they are subjects of national concern, and Congress alone can afford relief. The results which have thus

THE SUPPRESSION OF POLYGAMY In the Teritories, are reported by the Secretary of the Interior. It is not prabable that any additional legislation in this regard will e deemed desirable until the effect of existing laws shall be more closely observed and s.udied I congratulate you that the com-missioners, under whose supervision those laws have been put in operation, are en-couraged to believe that the evil at which they are aimed, may be suppressed without resort to such radical messures as, in some quarters, have been thought indispensable

The close relation of the general government to the Territories, preparing to become great States, may well engage your special attention. It is there that the disturbances mainly occur, and that polygamy has found room for its growth. I can not doubt that a careful survey of Territorial egislation would be of the highest utility. that life and would become more

ty would become more secure. The liability of outbreaks between the Indians and whites would be lessened, the marded, and better progress be made in the instruction of the young. Alaska is still without any forms of civil government. If means were provided for the education of its people and for the protection of their lives and property, the immense resources of the region would invite permanent set-tlements and open new fields for industry and enterprise. The report of THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

presents an account of the labors of that

department during the past year and in-cludes information of much interest to the general public. The condition of the for ests of the country and the wasteful manner give cause for serious apprehension. Their action in protecting the earth's surface, in modifying the extremes of climate, in regulating and sustaining the flow of springs and streams is now well understood, and their importance in relation to the growth and prosperity of the country cannot be safely disregarded. They are fast disap-pearing before destructive fires and the lepopulation, their total extinction canno be long delayed unless better method be long delayed unices better methods than now prevail shall be adopted for their protection and cultivation. the attention of Congress in lation to secure the preserva ion of the valuable forests still remaing on the public for their preservation is greater than in less mountainous regions, and where the pre vailing dryness of the climate renders their restoration, if they are once destroyed, well nigh impossible.

The communication which I wrote Con-

gress at its first session in December last. ontained a somewhat full statement of my emtiments in relation to the principles and ules which ought to govern APPOINTMENTS TO PUBLIC SERVICE.

Referring to the various plans which had heretofore been the subject of discussion in the National Legislature." Plans which in the main were modeled upon the system which obtains in Great Britain but which lacked certain of the prominent features, whereby that feature is distinguished. I felt bound to intimate my doubts whether they, or any of them, would afford adequate or any or them, would allore acquate remedy for the events which they aimed to correct. I declare, nevertheless, that if the proposed measure should prove acceptable to Congress they would receive the unhesitating

decessor.

The civil district now comprises about one hundred thousand persons, for the larger part of whom must, under the terms of the constitution, be selected by the President, either directly or through his own appointees. In the early years of the administration of the government the personal direction of appointments to the civil service may not have been an irrisome task for the executive, but now, that the burden has increased fully a hundred fold, it has become greater

atives in Congress. By discreet legislation important features from the pressure of PERSONAL IMPORTUNITY

And from the labor of examing conflicting

claims and pretensions of candidates. I trust that before the close of the present session some decisive action may be taken the correction of the evils which arise in the present methods of appointment, and I assure you of my hearty cooperation in any measures which are likely to conduce to that end, as to the most ap-propriate time and tenure of the official propriate time and tenure of the official government. It seems to be generally agreed that whatever their extent or char-acter the one shall be definite and the other stable, and that neither should be regulated by zeal in the service of fidelity of party or fidelity to the fortunes of an in-dividual. It matters little to the people at large what competent person is at the head of this department or of that bureau if they feel assured that the removal of one and the accession of another will not involve the retirement of honest and faithful subordinates, whose duties are purely administrative and have no legitimate connection with the triumph of any political principles or the success of any political party or faction. It is to this latter class of officers that the Senate bill, to which I have already referred, exclusively applies, while neither that bill nor any other prominent scheme, for improving the civil service, concerns the higher grade of officials who are appointed by the President, and confirmed by the Senate. I feel bound to correct a prevalent mis-

apprehension as to the frequency with which the present Executive has displaced the incumbent of an office and appointed another in his stead. It has been repeated ly alleged that he has, in this particular signally departed from the course which ha been pursued under recent administrations of the government. The facts are as fol-lows: "The whole number of Executive appointments during the four years immedi ately preceding Mr. Garfield's accession to the Presidency, was 2,696. Of this number 244, or 9 per cent., involved the removal of previous incumbents.

To the whole number of appointments, was much the same during each of these four years. In the first year, with 790 appoint ments, there were 74 removals, or 9 3-10 per cent. In the second, with 917 appearants, there were 85 removals, or 8 per cent. In the third, with 480 appointments, there removals, or 10 per cent. were one of the incidents of the marvelous extension of the railway system of the country has been the adoption of such measures by the corporations which own or control the roads as has tended to impair the advantages of healthful competition and to make hurtful discriminations in the same number of removals (89) has taken as taken as the same number of removals (89) has taken as taken since elapsed, but they constitute only 7.8-10 per cent. of the whole number of appointments, 1,118, within that period, and less than 2 6-10 of the entire list of mischiefs affect commerce between the navy, which is filled by Presidential appointment.

I declare my approval of such legislation as may be found necessary for supplementing the existing provisions of law

POLITICAL ASSESSMENT

In July last I authorized a public announce-

ment that employes of the government should regard themselves as at liberty to exercise their pleasure in making or refusing to make political contributions, and that their action in that regard would in no manner affect their official standing. In announcement I acted upon view which I had always maintained and still maintain that a public officer should be as absolutely free as any other citizen to give or withhold contribu tions for the aid of the political party of his choice. It has, however, been urged, and doubtless not without foundation in fact, that by solicitation of official superiors and by other modes, such contributions have at times been obtained from persons whose only motive for giving has been the fear of what might befall them if they re-

used. It goes without saying that such

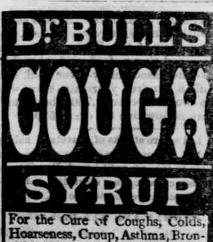
CONTRIBUTIONS are not voluntary, and in my judgment their collection should be prohibited by law. A bill which will effectually suppress them, will receive my cordial approval hope that, however numerous and urgent may be the demands upon your attention, the interests of this District will not be forgotten. The denial to its residents of the great rights of suffrage, in all its relations o national, state and municipal action imposes upon Congress the duty of affordwisdom can devise.

The report of the District commissioner indicate certain measures whose adoption would seem to be very desirable. I instance, in particular, those which relate to arrears of taxes, to steam railroads and to

assessments of real property.

Among the questions which have been the topic of recent debate in the halls of Congress, none are of greater gravity than those relating to the ascertainment of the vote for Presidential elections and the inention of the constitution in its provisions for devolving executive functions upon the Vice-President when the President suffers from inability to discharge the powers and duties of his office. I trust that no emarrassments may result from a failure to letermine these questions before another national election.

The closing year has been replete with clessings, for which we owe to the Giver of all Good our reverential acknowledgement for the uninterrupted harmony of our foreign relations, for the decay of sectional nimosities, for the exuberance of our harvests and the triumphs of our mining and manufacturing industries, for the prevalence of health, the spread of intelligence and the conservation of the public credit, for the growth of the country in all the elements of national greatness for these and countless other blessings, we should re-joice and be glad. I trust that under the inspiration of this great prosperity our ounsels may be harmonious and that the dictates of prudence, patriotism, justice and economy may lead to the adoption of neasures in which the Congress and Executive may heartily unite.



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